Lesson Theme: Jesus is the giver of living water.

Learning Objectives: Jesus loves each one of us. Jesus knows all about us. Jesus is called the Messiah. A relationship with Jesus gives us eternal life.

1. STARTING ACTIVITY: BEAN BAG TOSS 15 min

Activity requires: a bucket and a bean bag

Put the bucket on the ground. Mark a spot where the children will stand to throw the bean bag. (The distance will depend on the age of the children.) One player is chosen to throw the beanbag into the bucket. Give the child two chances. Continue playing as time allows.

2. INTRODUCTION 5 min

On the first day it is important to remember that you are the guest. You want to begin building a relationship with the group. Recognize the teachers and staff and show appreciation for their hard work. Maybe the children would like to share a song. Express what an honor it is to be in their country. Teaching them a simple song in their language is fun, too. As you dialogue with the children ask them where they get their water to drink. Do they help to get the water? When do they collect the water? Do they drink the water from the water source?

3. BIBLE STORY 15 min

Explain that you will tell them a true story from the Bible, God’s word. Tell them this is about a woman who goes to a well to get water. It is best to tell the story once with enthusiasm (try not to read it), and then tell the story a second time. During the second telling of the story, use puppets or a skit. An adult could play the part of Jesus, and the disciples can be either the children or team members. One of the team members needs to be the women at the well.
Suggested Props:
- Poster of well (See Resource File)
- Small water bucket

Scripture: (Taken from John 4, New Living Translation)

Jesus and his disciples were traveling together. They came to a well in Samaria. Jesus was tired. He sat by the well while his disciples went to buy food. Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Please give me a drink.”

The woman was surprised because Jews often refused to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?”

Jesus replied, “If you only knew the gift God has for you and who I am; you would ask me and I would give you living water.”

The women said, “But sir, you don’t have a rope or a bucket. This is a very deep well. Where would you get this living water?”

Jesus replied, “People soon become thirsty again after drinking this water. But the water I give them takes away their thirst. It gives them eternal life.”

Jesus told her the poor choices she had made in her past. The woman says to Jesus, “You must be a prophet. How else would you know these things about me? I know the Messiah will come – the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

Then Jesus told her, “I am the Messiah.”

The woman became so excited she left her water jar beside the well. Then she understood and believed Jesus. She rushed into the village to tell others. So the people went to see Jesus the Messiah, the Giver of Living Water.

Leader: (asks questions)
- Who came to the well while Jesus was sitting there? (The Samaritan woman)
- What does Jesus asks for? (A drink of water)
- The woman was surprised that Jesus talked to her. Why was she surprised? (She was a Samaritan and a woman.)
- Jesus tells the woman that He is the _________. (Messiah)
- Jesus tells the woman that He can give her the Living Water. What did He mean? (Jesus meant that a relationship with Him would give her eternal life.)

These questions could be written (in the native language) on a ‘water drop’ and placed in the small bucket. Children could draw questions from the bucket and see if they can answer them.

CONNECTION & ACTIVITY 20 min

Activity requires:
- Several large water drops cut out of construction paper
- One poster board
- Small water bucket
- String/yarn

Check the resource file page 2 for water drop pattern.
Preparation:
Write one phrase of John 4:10 on each water drop. Number each water drop in word order. In English the example would be:

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\text{Jesus replied, “If you only knew the gift God has for you and who I am, you would ask me, and I would give you living water.” John 4:10}
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The verse could be shortened for younger children to “I would give you living water.”

Instructions:
Stand the water well poster where it can be seen. Have a small bucket with string or yarn tied to it so that it can be lowered behind the well.

Leader:
Remember the woman went to the well for water so that she could have a drink. Jesus told her something. Let’s see if we can remember what He said. We will put our bucket in the well and pull up some words that Jesus said.

Ask a child to come and help you. Show them what they will be doing and how they must be gentle when they pull the bucket out of the well. Allow the child to slowly drop the bucket behind the poster. Have a team member steady the poster and place the first phrase in the bucket. The child takes the phrase out of the bucket and reads it. Ask another child to come to the well. They continue in the same manner and stand next to the first child as they read their verse. When the whole Bible verse is displayed have someone from the audience read it. Engage the children in trying to say the verse without looking at the rain drops. Explain that “John” is a book in the Bible and that “4” is the chapter and “10” is the verse.

CRAFTS: WATER WELL

Water Well Activity Requires:
- One copy of the cup and well drawing for each child on cardstock
- Crayons (2 or 3 per child)
- Yarn- four inches long, one per child
- Hole punch (Pre-punching holes is recommended.)
- Scissors

Instructions:
Color the cup and well. Cut on the dotted line. (Pre-cut for younger children.) Attach the yarn through the holes on the cup. Glue on the Bible verse.
GAMES: RUN FOR YOUR WATER

Directions:
Have everyone make a circle and join hands. One person is chosen to be it. It remains outside the circle. It walks around and chooses two players who are next to each other and pulls their hands apart saying to them, **Run for your Water.** The two players run in opposite directions around the outside of the circle in a race back to their original space. It takes one of the vacant spaces. It faces outward and has his hands out so that the first player who returns and slaps his hand is in the circle. The other slower player then becomes the next it.